

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING LANCE CORPORAL
JONATHAN E. GIERKE, UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in great sorrow. On January 19, 2022, Lance Corporal (LCpl.) Jonathan E. Gierke, from Lawrenceville, Georgia, tragically passed away as a result of a tactical vehicular rollover in Onslow County, North Carolina. LCpl. Gierke was stationed in my Congressional district at Camp Lejeune and was a Landing Support Specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 24, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group.

LCpl. Gierke was the son of a Navy veteran and a member of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) at Collins Hill High School, Georgia. He began his active duty in March of 2021. Since then, LCpl. Gierke's assignments include being stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina; School of Infantry-East in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

LCpl. Gierke's service to our country can best be shown by his attainment of the National Defense and Global War on Terrorism Service Medals. His duty and commitment to our country will never be forgotten and I am forever grateful for all that he accomplished and for his service to our beloved country.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in remembering this patriot and recognizing all the sacrifices that he made for our beloved country.

HONORING DR. PAUL ANTONIK
FOR HIS TREMENDOUS CAREER
AT THE AIR FORCE RESEARCH
LABORATORY IN ROME, NEW
YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Paul Antonik for his exceptional career culminating in his appointment as Chief Scientist for Connectivity and Dissemination at the Air Force Research Laboratory.

Dr. Antonik dedicated his long and distinguished career to developing warfighting information technologies for air, space, and cyberspace forces. Dr. Antonik began his work with the Department of the Air Force in 1978 as an electronic engineer at the Rome Air Development Center. After five years of service, he transitioned into the private sector, working on developing, designing, and evaluating sensor systems, waveforms, and signal processing

techniques. In 1998, Dr. Antonik returned to government service and joined the Sensors Directorate at the Air Force Research Laboratory. Dr. Antonik's exceptional work earned him a spot in the Senior Executive Service in 2012 as the Chief Scientist for Connectivity and Dissemination.

Dr. Antonik received six U.S. patents and authored or co-authored over fifty-five journals, papers, and reports. Additionally, Dr. Antonik won the prestigious Presidential Rank Award in 2019. As the Chief Scientist, Dr. Antonik led the Information Directorate as its principal scientific advisor and oversaw technologies that span the functional areas of command and control, communication, computer, intelligence, and cyber. Throughout his career, Dr. Antonik served the Air Force in a multitude of roles developing sensor systems and knowledge-aided signal processing techniques. Dr. Antonik was an early advocate for applying artificial intelligence into the radar signal processing chain, which is now a best practice for this type of work.

I am grateful for Dr. Antonik's over thirty years of service to the Air Force and his contribution to the scientific community. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Dr. Antonik on his retirement and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MARTHA
SWORDS AS THE OKALOOSA
COUNTY, FLORIDA EDUCATION
STAFF PROFESSIONAL OF THE
YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Martha Swords as the Okaloosa County Education Professional of the Year. She has spent years contributing to education in Northwest Florida in many capacities. She is currently working as an Exception Student Education Paraprofessional.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best educators in the Nation. It is recognized that working in education is one of the most difficult yet rewarding occupations in existence. Mrs. Swords has dedicated her life to educating children in a way that will best help them learn.

Mrs. Swords support and outreach extend throughout Okaloosa County School District. Mrs. Swords has displayed dedication by working with students individually, according to their unique needs and by working in a childcare network as a teacher of four year olds. I commend her for her steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most—the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of her admirable contributions to our community, I am truly proud to have Mrs. Swords as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mrs. Swords for her many accomplishments, and her commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, and collaboration in the Okaloosa County School District. I thank her for her service, and wish her all the best for her continued success.

HONORING THE CREW OF THE
“HORIZON RELIANCE”

HON. KAIALI'I KAHELE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. KAHELE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the crew of the U.S. Flag commercial ship *Horizon Reliance*, sailing out of Honolulu and operated by third-generation, family-owned Pasha Hawaii.

On the evening of November 6, 2020—over 1,000 miles northeast of O'ahu—a private turbo-prop plane with two individuals onboard was enroute from California to Honolulu before suffering an engine casualty. As a pilot myself—with thousands of hours logged in both military and commercial passenger aircraft—believe me when I say that this is the worst possible scenario in aviation: to be in the middle of the ocean, 1,000 miles from the closest land, in the middle of the night when your one and only engine fails.

As water rapidly filled the cabin, the two pilots managed to escape the aircraft, clambering into their life raft and called the Honolulu Coast Guard Search and Rescue center via satellite phone.

With 8–10 foot seas and 30 knot winds on-scene, the Coast Guard realized the gravity of the situation and quickly dispatched a mayday alert calling out for volunteer commercial ships to lend aid, as the distance from shore prevented a search-and-rescue helicopter operation.

Due to the hazardous conditions, the first ship to arrive on scene was unable to rescue the desperately heaving life raft, but was able to remain on scene rendering a glimmer of hope for the crash survivors. Shortly thereafter, the *Horizon Reliance*, under the command of Captain Mark Tuck, arrived and expertly commenced a small-boat operation to retrieve the survivors. Cautiously maneuvering the vessel under arduous conditions, the men and women of the *Horizon Reliance*—union members of the Masters, Mates and Pilots, Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association, and Seafarers International Unions—recovered the pilots aboard the vessel and brought them to safety.

I cannot overstate how truly close this incident came to tragedy; the lives of these two aircraft crash survivors, their families and friends were forever changed due to the actions of the crew of the *Horizon Reliance* that fateful evening. It speaks even more to the dedication and devotion to duty of the mariners of the U.S. merchant fleet—the brave

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

men and women who carry goods across the globe in support of the U.S. military, as well as humanitarian food-aid, research cargo to Antarctica and countless other missions in support of our country.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER CHEW, CHIEF OF POLICE OF EVESHAM, NEW JERSEY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I stand today to recognize Christopher Chew, Chief of Police for Evesham, New Jersey, for his 25 years of service to his community and our state.

Eight months after graduating from Rowan University with a degree in criminal justice, Chief Chew began his career with the Evesham Township Police Department's (ETPD) patrol bureau in February of 1997. He soon transferred to the investigative bureau, where he conducted investigations into the distribution of illegal narcotics alongside the Burlington County Prosecutors Office Narcotics Task Force.

In April of 2010, he was selected to command the newly created Office of Professional Standards, overseeing areas such as internal affairs, policy management, and accreditations. In 2011 thanks to his leadership, ETPD became a nationally accredited law enforcement agency through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and has been further accredited throughout the years. This merit, often described as the "gold standard in public safety", places ETPD in the top one percent of agencies across the country. This distinction is shared with only seven other municipal law enforcement agencies in New Jersey.

In August of 2013, he was promoted to Chief of Evesham Police and over the course of his eight and a half years, Chief Chew sought to strengthen ties between his department and our community. I had the pleasure of meeting Chief Chew in my first term as Congressman and came to know him and his commitment to tackling challenges in our community. Seeing an unprecedented increase in opioid overdoses and deaths, he worked with local drug counselors to provide immediate assistance to anyone suffering from addiction through the "Straight to Treatment" program. In addition, officers and educators worked together under the #NotEvenOnce program at Cherokee High School to inform students about the dangers of opioid addiction. This interactive experience showed students the connection between the opioid epidemic at large and its connection to our community.

Chief Chew was recently asked about his proudest accomplishment. He described new wellness and safety programs for the members of his department which have yielded a healthier, more vibrant, collaborative, and productive workforce. Outside organizations have described it as the "first of its kind" and has since become a model for other departments across the country.

Chief Chew represents the best New Jersey has to offer—exemplifying service and being a positive example for others in our community.

Despite his upcoming retirement next week, Chief Chew plans to remain active in the force and committed to passing on his knowledge to the department's next generation of leadership. I wish him the best of luck with his retirement as he spends his time teaching yoga and writing, taking time to be with his wife, Nicole, and two children, Michael and Natalie. May retirement bring him the happiness and comfort his service gave us for 25 years.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TRAVIS ADAM STARK

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of World War II veteran Travis Adam Stark.

Travis Stark was born on January 31, 1922, in Blox, Texas, to parents George and Georgia Stark. The eldest of nine children, Travis spent his youth working on the family farm in Bon Wier, Texas. At 19, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and was sent to work in Zavalla, Texas. While employed with the CCC, he was chosen to assist a local college with trapping foxes for research purposes. Due to the economic instability brought on by the Great Depression, he sent most of his wages back home to support his family. After 11 months with the CCC, Travis accepted a job at the local shipyard and was there only a few weeks before being drafted by the United States Army.

On November 4, 1942, Travis was assigned to Company C of the 844th Engineer Aviation Battalion. His job within the battalion was to build airstrips and operate and maintain heavy equipment. His company was sent to England just before D-Day. After our forces invaded Normandy, Travis' company was sent to France. He was later stationed in Germany and then in Austria. While in Austria, he and 11 other "good old boys" from Texas and Louisiana were asked to hunt game to supplement the Army's rations with fresh meat. After doing his part to fill the stomachs of his fellow warfighters, Travis's company was sent back to France, where they boarded a ship and returned to America. For his military service, Travis received an honorable discharge on January 1, 1946, along with a European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Campaign Medal, a Victory Ribbon, one Service Stripe, five Overseas Service Bars, and an Expert Rifle Badge.

After his time in the Army ended, Travis returned to Southeast Texas. He began working for Texaco, Inc., where he would remain for the next 39 years. Later, Travis married Bernis Kraus, and they had one daughter. He later became the proud grandfather of two granddaughters and the great-grandfather of five great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Travis spent his life loving God, his family, and his country. It is my honor to recognize him as an American patriot who valiantly answered the call to protect and defend this great nation during the Second World War. I thank him for his inspiring service and dedication to our country.

LAUREN MARTENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lauren Martens of SEIU for his 16 years of service to the Service Employee International Union (SEIU) Colorado State Council.

For more than 40 years, Lauren has organized and fought tirelessly on issues in the labor community on many different issues. In his last position he fought and advocated for a raise to the minimum wage and won paid sick and family leave, passed and defended the Affordable Care Act, helped fund public services, defeated attacks on union rights, fought for immigrant and racial justice, and much more.

He has been able to help support members fighting for and winning their union, making their voices heard in politics, and winning improvements in their lives at the bargaining table, including with the first-ever union contract for state employees. I have admired Lauren's passion to be part of the fight for justice and have worked with him over the years on numerous issues. His hard work and dedication to the labor community in Colorado is tremendous.

I extend my deepest appreciation for Lauren Martens and his service and dedication to our community. I thank him for his continuous dedication to serving the people of Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF TUFAIL AHMAD

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my remarkable constituents, Tufail Ahmad, who passed away on January 13, 2022. Tufail dedicated his life to civic engagement and public service. His unwavering dedication to building a better future for his family, neighbors, friends and community is a true testament to the values we cherish as a country.

Tufail was born on March 4, 1938 in the small village of Allahabad, India. As a young man, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree and Master of Arts degree in Commerce from Allahabad University before emigrating to Pakistan. While in Pakistan, Tufail worked as an assistant professor and then as the Deputy Auditor General for the Pakistan Audit and Accounts Services. Tufail later travelled to the United States in 1968 as a member of the Pakistan audit team at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. After formally emigrating to the United States in 1973, Tufail briefly worked at a shipping firm before he proudly founded his own international trading firm, Euro-America Shipping and Trade Inc.

After 27 years at the trading firm, Tufail went on to volunteer community service and served as a board member of the Committee for Montgomery, Progressive Maryland and the Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board. Tufail was also well known for his outstanding active

involvement in state and local politics, including serving as Precinct Chair and D15 Caucus Chair. He was later recognized as Precinct Official of the Year in 2004 and in 2018 was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame.

In 2003, in what has become his enduring legacy, Tufail co-established the Montgomery County Muslim Council where he spearheaded efforts to boost civic engagement in the Muslim community. He also co-founded the Montgomery County Muslim Foundation, an organization that aspires to a hunger-free and hate-free society for all people, regardless of their faith, race or gender. Under Tufail's determined leadership, the Montgomery County Muslim Foundation became one of the largest nonprofit charitable foundations in Montgomery County.

Tufail devoted his life to providing for, and sharing with, all of our people. His unshakable commitment to improving the lives of his friends, family, neighbors, and community embodies true American patriotism.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the remarkable life and wonderful legacy of my constituent, Tufail Ahmad.

REMEMBERING MR. WELTON M.
HOLMAN

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember Mr. Welton M. Holman, a well-known educator and student motivator of Monroe, Louisiana who entered the gates of heaven on January 24, 2022.

Born in Monroe, Louisiana in 1946, Mr. Holman attended Richwood High School and was known as an outstanding football player. He attended Southern University in Baton Rouge on a full football scholarship and in 1971, he graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree—launching his lifelong journey of youth mentorship and coaching.

Mr. Holman taught and coached in Moorehouse Parish, Union Parish, and Claiborne Parish before coming home to the Monroe City School System at Carroll High School, where he spent most of his career teaching and coaching football.

To further his education before retirement, he also attended Grambling State University and Louisiana Tech University where he received his Masters of Science Degree.

Even when he was technically retired, he continued his passion as a substitute teacher until he passed away.

Whether they were on his team or not, most people called him “Coach.”

Over the years, Mr. Holman mentored many students, engaging them with his personality and positive spirit.

He appeared in theatrical performances, volunteered for community clean-ups, and was famous for his pep rally rendition of “Members Only.”

Coach's dream was to inspire and support young people, and he undoubtedly has

achieved this dream and has made a lasting difference on his community.

My deepest prayers are with Mr. Holman's family, friends, students, and loved ones in this difficult time, especially his stepdaughter, my dear friend Louisiana State Senator Katrina Jackson.

May you find comfort in scripture that reads, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

May they continue to live his dream as they cherish so many beautiful memories they had with him, and may Welton “Coach” Holman rest in heavenly peace.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE FIRST
CLASS ZACHARY W. RIFFLE,
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in great sorrow. On January 19, 2022, Private First Class (PFC) Zachary W. Riffle, from Kingwood, West Virginia, tragically passed away as a result of a tactical vehicular rollover in Onslow County, North Carolina. PFC Riffle was stationed in my Congressional district at Camp Lejeune and was a Landing Support Specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 24, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group.

PFC Riffle began his active duty in March of 2021. Since then, PFC Riffle's assignments include being stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina; School of Infantry-East at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; and Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools.

PFC Riffle graduated from Preston High School, West Virginia where he played football and wrestled. His service to our country can best be shown by his decision to forgo his senior wrestling season to graduate early and become a Marine as soon as possible. In addition, PFC Riffle's selfless commitment to our nation can be shown by his attainment of the National Defense and Global War on Terrorism Service Medals. His duty and commitment to our country will never be forgotten and I am forever grateful for all that he accomplished and for his service to our beloved country.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in remembering this patriot and recognizing all the sacrifices that he made for our beloved country.

HONORING BARBARA PEARCE AND
JOE MOONEY FOR THEIR OUT-
STANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO
CONNECTICUT HOSPICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, nestled along the shore in Branford, Connecticut lies

Connecticut Hospice, an organization founded in 1974 by Florence Wald, then an Associate Professor and Dean of the Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing Program at Yale University, and dedicated to delivering coordinated, comprehensive and compassionate care to people with terminal illnesses and their families.

Connecticut Hospice was the first such organization of its kind in our nation and over the years, has cared for thousands of patients and provided comfort to them and their loved ones in their final days, becoming a national model of care and inspiring thousands of similar programs in other communities. Indeed, it was at Connecticut Hospice that I spent the last weeks with my mother, Luisa.

Just a few years ago, Connecticut Hospice was facing some difficult challenges and found itself in need of an organizational shake-up. That is when Barbara Pearce and Joe Mooney stepped up and became an integral part of Connecticut Hospice reaching a new bar of care and standard of service. Barbara took on the role of Chief Executive Officer and Joe the dual responsibilities of Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

Barbara Pearce, an active community leader and philanthropist, has dedicated countless years of service to a number of organizations as a board member or advisor. When she learned of the troubles at Connecticut Hospice, she decided to take on an enormous task. In her own words, Connecticut Hospice “is the mothership. We are the one that people look to and visit from around the country and around the world to see how cutting-edge, end-of-life care is delivered.” For that reason, “it is not enough to give good care.” As staff and volunteers will attest, Barbara was straightforward about the tough decisions that needed to be made. And anyone who knows Barbara will tell you, once she is focused on a goal, she is a force of nature.

Recently retired from state service as a Deputy Commissioner at the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services and with over forty years of experience as a financial executive in both the government and private sector, Joe Mooney was just the person Connecticut Hospice needed to step in as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer. With his background, Joe was in a unique position to utilize his talents and expertise to not only right the ship but ensure its solid foundation for the future.

Since its inception, Connecticut Hospice has always been a leader in caring for the terminally ill and their families. Under the careful direction of Barbara and Joe, the organization has navigated many challenges and obstacles, including the Covid-19 pandemic. Though they both originally planned for their intervention to be brief, they have chosen to stay on. It is their vision and leadership that will ensure Connecticut Hospice can continue in its mission to provide the very best of comfort and care to the terminally ill and their loved ones in the most vulnerable of times. It is a gift we are all beyond grateful to them to have preserved. It is my honor to join the staff, volunteers and families of Connecticut Hospice in extending my deepest thanks and appreciation to Barbara Pearce and Joe Mooney for their outstanding efforts on behalf of this very special organization. I look forward to continuing our work together.

APPLAUDING PINELLAS PARK
HIGH SCHOOL FOR THREE CON-
GRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE
WINS

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I am honored to congratulate the students, teachers, and alumni of my home district's own Pinellas Park High School for winning the 2021 Congressional App Challenge for Florida's 13th Congressional District. This will be Pinellas Park High School's third winning submission to the Congressional App Challenge in only five years—the most for any school in Florida's 13th District.

Since our first Congressional App Challenge in 2017, the students of the Pinellas Park High School STEM Club have submitted highly original and technically sophisticated apps addressing the needs of the culturally-diverse communities I'm honored to represent. Helmed by their dedicated STEM teacher, Lafrance "Joe" Clark, this club has proven time and again the power of hands-on STEM instruction, collaboration, and teamwork.

Over the past five years, the winning teams of Pinellas Park High School have created apps that address a host of issues facing our community. From large challenges like those confronting Pinellas Veterans transitioning to civilian life, to smaller but still important ones like the lack of accessible information on teen skincare, these students have used technology to tackle the tough problems they see in the world around them. This year's winning submission, Healthy Minds, is no exception—providing a platform for teens experiencing mental health challenges to access health providers, resources, and expert information.

As the Representative for Florida's 13th Congressional District, I want to congratulate our 2021 Congressional App Challenge winners—Trudy Kwok, Jenna Nguyen, Gabriel Moreno, and Rashonda Fayson. Under the leadership of the excellent Mr. Joe Clark, they are doing their STEM club, school, and community proud.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF LUSIA "LUCY" HARRIS STEW-
ART

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of a remarkable individual basketball champion, Lusia "Lucy" Harris Stewart.

Lucy was born February 10, 1955, in Minter City, Mississippi to Ethel and Willie Harris. Lucy, at the age of 66, was called to her heavenly resting place on Wednesday, January 18, 2022, at Greenwood-Leflore Hospital in Greenwood, MS.

From her humble beginnings in rural Leflore County, Lucy, along with her eleven siblings, were raised on a system of integrity premised on the tenets of love, kindness and compassion imparted by their parents who instilled a

central moral compass that echoed the heart of the Good Samaritan and core ethical values encompassed in the importance of work, family, community, and the love of God.

A graduate of Amanda Elzy High School in Greenwood, MS, Lucy received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in health, physical education, and recreation in 1977, a master's degree in education in 1984 and an honorary doctorate degree in 2014—all from Delta State University. Lucy still owns a plethora of Lady Statesmen basketball records and has the honor of holding another distinction: at the 1976 Olympics, Lucy scored the first points ever recorded in an Olympic women's basketball game. Lucy changed the face of women's basketball. Opponents called her unstoppable but even that barely described her approach to the game.

To this date, Lucy is still Delta State's career record holder in points (2,891) and rebounds (1,662) and averaged 25.9 points and 14.5 rebounds per game in 115 career games played. Lucy shot an astonishing 63.3 percent from the field in her illustrious collegiate career.

She holds the distinction as being the first female, collegiate player inducted in the National Basketball Hall of Fame (1992) and is a member of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame (1999). She is also a member of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame (1990) and the Delta State Sports Hall of Fame (1983). Lucy collected Kodak All-American honors in 1975, 1976, and 1977, and was the Mississippi Sportsperson of the Year in 1976. She became the first and only woman drafted by the NBA, when the New Orleans Jazz selected her in the 1977 draft.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of Mrs. Lusia "Lucy" Harris Stewart.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DON
HANSEN

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Hansen, who passed away on January 5, 2022.

In 1938, as a young boy, Don and his family moved from Iowa to San Clemente, a beautiful beach town in my congressional district in Southern California. When Don turned twelve, he worked at the San Clemente Pier, hauling fish from arriving ships to the shore. Later, Don enlisted in the United States Coast Guard at the age of eighteen, serving four years—with two of those years stationed in Guam.

Don moved back to San Clemente after his honorable discharge, working at a sportfishing company that he would ultimately buy in 1966. Each season, Don took over 10,000 fishermen into the waters off the coast of Southern California. In 1970, he was honored as San Clemente's "Citizen of the Year" for his efforts.

A year later, Don moved his operation a few miles north of San Clemente to Dana Point Harbor, founding Dana Wharf Sportfishing and Whale Watching, the harbor's first business. During that time, he helped jumpstart the whale watching industry and created the first

and longest-running annual whale festival in the world, the Dana Point Festival of Whales. In March 2021, I was honored to celebrate the Festival's 50th anniversary with Don and his family.

Beyond his role as a business owner and leader of his community, Don was always a strong advocate for sustainable fishing. The Coastal Conservation Association of California awarded Don its highest honor, the Anthony Hsieh Conservation Award, for his decades of work to improve the accessibility of sportfishing. He maintained positions on the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Pacific Fisheries Management Council, and the Sportfishing Association of California. He is survived by his children, David, Michael, Jeff, Donna, Jane, and Jennifer, and his 15 grandchildren.

Don Hansen lived an incredible and full life. He was a central part of his community and his love of the ocean and his dedication to the conservation, understanding, and appreciation of whales changed Southern California for the better. We are grateful for his service and contributions to his community.

RECOGNIZING MS. SARONDA
LEWIS AS THE WALTON COUNTY,
FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL SUP-
PORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE
YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Saronda Lewis as the Walton County Educational Support Professional of the Year. Since August of 1998, Ms. Lewis has served the Walton County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best educational support professionals in the Nation. It is recognized that the position of Food Services Manager can be difficult but can also be so rewarding. Ms. Lewis has performed her many duties without any question, while also committing to provide a big smile for all those she encounters.

Her support and outreach extend far beyond the hearts and minds of her own students through her willingness to help wherever assistance is needed. Ms. Lewis has displayed dedicated teamwork by coordinating events, like Freeport's Annual Bayfest and the Spring Festival. I commend her for her steadfast willingness to serve as an example for those that matter most, the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of her admirable contributions, I am truly proud to have Ms. Lewis as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Saronda Lewis for her accomplishments and her commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, and collaboration in the Walton County School District. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best for continued success.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
(RETIRED) ROBERT LEWIS
"SAM" WETZEL

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary American patriot, soldier, mentor, and hero, Lt. Gen. (RET.) Robert Lewis "Sam" Wetzel. He transitioned on Thursday, January 20, 2022. His Funeral Mass was held on Friday, January 28, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church in Columbus, Georgia followed by a military burial at the Fort Benning National Cemetery and visitation at the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center.

Lt. Gen. (RET.) Robert Lewis "Sam" Wetzel was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia on October 6, 1930. His impressive 34-year military career began after he graduated from Irving High School in 1948. He planned to attend Purdue University, but ultimately went to the United States Military Academy at West Point. After graduating from West Point in 1952 as an Infantry Officer, he was immediately deployed to Korea, where he served as a Company Commander. In 1961, as a captain, he commanded a mechanized infantry company in Germany.

In 1968, as a Lieutenant Colonel, Wetzel was deployed to South Vietnam to serve as the commander of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment (United States), also known as the "Polar Bears". During a firefight, an enemy bullet grazed his forehead leaving a small but permanent scar. The abrasion and his actions during the Vietnam War prompted his nomination for a Purple Heart, which he declined, however, believing that his wound was not severe enough to warrant being awarded a Purple Heart.

Following his return from Vietnam, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and assumed command of a brigade at Fort Carson, Colorado. In 1975, following promotion to the rank of Brigadier General, he was sent to West Germany, where he commanded the First Infantry Division. Following his command with the First Infantry Division, he received his second star from the Commander of all European and American forces in Europe, the renowned, General Alexander Haig.

Wetzel went on to serve as General Haig's Chief of Staff in Belgium from 1978 to 1979. During this time, he worked with his staff to develop a response to the Soviet Union's deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe. The ultimate strategy was to deploy the Pershing II missiles in Europe, so that Moscow could be hit in a matter of minutes, shortening the response time for the Soviet Union. Unfortunately, domestic political battles began in NATO countries about deploying the Pershing II missiles, and that strategy was deferred. After his tenure as General Haig's Chief of Staff, Wetzel commanded the Third Infantry Division in Würzburg, where he led his division to victory in the annual war games staged in West Germany.

In 1981, Wetzel was diagnosed with what was thought to be terminal melanoma cancer and was given less than a year to live. During this time, the Army offered him full medical disability in exchange for retirement, but he re-

fused the offer, signed a waiver, and remained on active duty. The Army sent him back to the United States, where he managed to make a full recovery and assume command of the infantry training center in Fort Benning, Georgia.

In 1983, Wetzel was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General and sent to Germany as the Deputy Commander in Chief of U.S. Forces in Europe as the NATO allies had finally approved the Pershing II plan. Upon his arrival, Wetzel's main responsibility was to receive and deploy the Pershing II missiles amid anti-war demonstrations all over Europe. It is argued that the Pershing II plan was one of three key factors that contributed to the defeat of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War.

In 1986, Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Colin Powell, succeeded Wetzel in command of V Corps in Frankfurt, Germany. This was his last assignment before retirement.

Following his military service, he continued to serve his community and make a positive impact in the lives of others. His contributions include serving as the Commander in Chief of the Military Order of the World Wars, a Veterans organization of commissioned officers, which is committed to promoting national security, patriotism, good citizenship, and service to one's country. During his stint as Commander in Chief, he worked tirelessly to educate the public, local civic clubs like Kiwanis and Rotary, and the media on national security issues while also instilling patriotism and leadership skills in young people through Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, JROTC, ROTC, and other youth programs.

Among his numerous honors and awards are the Army Distinguished Service Medal, a Bronze Star, two Legions of Merit, six Air Medals, a Joint Superior Service Medal, a Meritorious Service Medal, and a Combat Infantryman's Badge with Star.

Lt. Gen. (RET.) Wetzel accomplished much throughout his life, but none of this would have been possible without his enduring faith in God and the love and support of his wife, Eileen; their children, Margaret, Robert, Eileen, Theodore, Patricia, Catherine, and Michael; and a host of other family, friends, and associates, all of whom will miss him dearly.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia in paying tribute to Lt. Gen. (RET.) Robert Lewis "Sam" Wetzel for his extraordinary service to his nation, his community, and to humankind. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all those who mourn his loss.

HONORING AND CONGRATULATING
THE SERVICE OF LT. COL. JOHN
"KARL" MARKS

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the service of one of the highest-time fighter pilots in the U.S. Air Force, Lt. Col. John "Karl" Marks.

On September 1, 2021, U.S. Air Force Reserve pilot, Lt. Col. Marks made history when-

ever he became the only pilot to reach 7,000 hours in the A-10C Warthog; in addition to becoming one of the highest-time fighter pilots in the U.S. Air Force. Lt. Col. Marks is assigned to the 442nd Fighter Wing based out of Whiteman Air Force Base. He has an impressive career which spans over three decades with over 3,610 flights, 1,150 combat hours from thirteen combat deployments in multiple theaters of operations, and his most memorable combat mission of the destruction of 23 Iraqi tanks in a trio of missions during Desert Storm.

It has been said that Lt. Col. Marks is a humble and outstanding attack pilot who loves to fly and brings an immense amount of invaluable knowledge to the 442nd Fighter Wing. Among the incredible feat of achieving 7,000 hours in a single aircraft type, Lt. Col. Marks has had memorable missions from Desert Storm I, Desert Storm II, and from Afghanistan. During his time in Afghanistan's Kunar Valley in 2014, Lt. Col. Marks was able to help extract a Jaguar 20 squadron which was surrounded by the Taliban with no casualties. This is just one of the many successful combat missions Lt. Col. Marks has had.

It is with great honor that I recognize the dedicated service of U.S. Air Force Pilot Lt. Col. John "Karl" Marks. Please join me in congratulating this true American hero for his dedicated valor and service to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERVICE OF
NAMI NEW HAMPSHIRE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR KENNETH NOR-
TON

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Kenneth Norton's nearly 20 years of service to the National Alliance of Mental Illness of New Hampshire. For the past two decades, Ken has served his community as a steadfast advocate for mental health services and suicide prevention leading the way before many in today's society recognized the importance of behavioral health.

Ken started with NAMI NH in 2003 to help create and grow prevention programming and spread awareness to policy makers, providers, and families across our state. By focusing his efforts on the organizations three cornerstones of support, education and advocacy, Ken has significantly expanded NAMI's presence in New Hampshire after stepping into the role of Executive Director in 2011. Under his leadership, the staff of NAMI NH, the budget, and the number of people served has quadrupled in size recognized by their well-deserved Non-profit Impact Award from the NH Center for Nonprofits in 2019.

By working with lawmakers and the public advocates such as NAMI NH and other mental health advocates, Congress has delivered expanded funding opportunities to prevent, educate, and treat our communities in need. Using these new grant opportunities NAMI NH offers Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Mental Health Awareness & Deescalation training for our police, fire, and EMS. This allows our first responders to learn how to best manage individuals experiencing mental illness so they

may protect the public while ensuring their own safety in these scenarios. NAMI programs, such as CIT, help develop professionals and individuals from all backgrounds and strengthen the communities they serve.

Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic we have seen increased anxiety, fear, isolation, and grief from people of all ages increasing the need for mental health services. The strain placed on hospitals to treat this new infectious disease has limited access to critical services including behavior health. Yet advocates like Ken never faltered despite this unprecedented time and continued his efforts to support community members in need of behavioral health services.

While in Congress I am proud to have worked with Ken to open opportunities for mental health, suicide prevention, and addition services, and I am grateful for the devoted staff and volunteers at NAMI NH for their tremendous work.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Ken for his continued dedication to the wellbeing of fellow Granite Staters and wish him the best as he transitions from his role as Executive Director.

HONORING RETIRED ARMY COLONEL MIKE PLUMMER FOR HIS DEDICATION IN SERVING FORT DRUM AND THE NORTH COUNTRY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the extraordinary life of retired Army Colonel Mike Plummer. Colonel Mike Plummer played a pivotal role in reactivating the 10th Mountain Infantry Division and bringing it to Fort Drum, New York. Col. Plummer's prioritization of creating an enduring bond between Fort Drum and the community forever changed the North Country. Col. Plummer graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1960 prior to serving in Vietnam. For the next thirty years, Col. Plummer valiantly served in infantry units at every level of the XVIII Airborne Corps.

While working at the Pentagon during the waning days of the Cold War, Col. Plummer recognized the growing importance of light infantry units. He was tasked with flying to northern New York to scope out Fort Drum as a potential base for the newly reactivated 10th Mountain Light Infantry Division. This visit would sway Col. Plummer into advocating for Fort Drum to be the home of the 10th Mountain Division. He believed the harsh winter conditions of Fort Drum would create a division that was prepared for any environment they may encounter. In 1984, Plummer brought the 10th Mountain Division to Fort Drum and immediately prioritized creating a strong relationship between the military and the North Country community. The required expansion of Fort Drum, prior to the arrival of the 10th Mountain Division, created many jobs and stimulated the economy in the North Country. Plummer's role in introducing the 10th Mountain Division into the region

changed the North Country and the Watertown community forever.

After serving as the 10th Mountain Division's first Chief of Staff at Fort Drum, Col. Plummer retired in 1991. Following his retirement from the Army, Col. Plummer remained committed to improving the North Country community and bettering the lives of Fort Drum soldiers. In 1992, Col. Plummer created the Adopt-a-Platoon program, which gathered community members together to write letters and send care packages to deployed soldiers and host a pizza party when they returned. This program started out local in the North Country and has now developed into a national program that has adopted service members of all branches of the military. The success of the Adopt-a-Platoon program is entirely due to Col. Plummer's dedication to ensuring the local community supports their service members.

Col. Plummer dedicated his career to improving the lives of others. In addition to the Adopt-a-Platoon program, Col. Plummer served as an advisor to the Board of Directors of Advocate Drum, created the Yellow Ribbon campaign, organized scholarship funds for family members of the 10th Mountain Division soldiers killed or wounded in action. Helped establish the soldier 101 program in the North Country to give the community a better understanding of the life of a soldier, and developed the idea for the "North Country Honors the Mountain" monument in Watertown's Thompson Park. This monument commemorates the lasting impact that the 10th Mountain Division has on the North Country and pays tribute to the sacrifice of every Fort Drum soldier.

Col. Plummer has made an indelible impact on the North Country and Fort Drum. Throughout his entire life he put his family, the 10th Mountain Division, and the North Country above himself. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to remember and celebrate the life of Col. Mike Plummer. The impact he has made on the North Country can never be overstated.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF LEONARD WARE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the rich life and distinguished career of Leonard Ware. Leonard was born on January 19, 1928, in Everett, Washington, and died at his Palo Alto home on December 19, 2021. With him at his death bed were his wife Jeanne, and his dog Jake.

Leonard Ware earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Washington and his law degree from Syracuse University in 1953. He was a member of the honorary legal society Phi Delta Phi.

Leo served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Western District of Washington from 1953 to 1955, and was a member of the Palo Alto Planning Commission from 1965 to 1968. He was a member of the Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, Washington State and American Bar Associations. He was also a member of the State Bar of California and the California Trial Lawyers Association, as well as the Palo Alto Club and the Bohemian Club.

Based on a handshake in 1969, Leo and his friend John Freidenrich established their law firm which became known as Ware Fletcher and Freidenrich. The firm prospered, merged several times and was eventually acquired by the global firm of DLA Piper.

Leo went to Mississippi in the '60s to register Black voters and was a staunch supporter of civil rights laws. He was an original investor in Embarcadero Media, on the original board of University National Bank and Trust, and with his wife, was a strong supporter of many non-profit organizations.

Leo loved spending time at his ranch in Morgan Hill where he raised animals and grew grapes, and he will be deeply missed by everyone who had the privilege to know him.

Leo leaves his wife of 62 years, Jeanne, and his daughters Laura and Pamela, his son Lincoln, nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. His daughter Jennifer predeceased him.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our condolences to Leonard Ware's family, and in honoring Leo for the excellence of his life, his work and his countless contributions. We are a better community and a stronger country because of him.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF RON BERNAL

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Ron Bernal upon his retirement from the City of Antioch.

Ron has been a longtime friendly face working for the Antioch. Ron joined the City of Antioch as assistant city engineer in 1998. Prior to that, Ron worked for the City of Dixon for 14 years. In 2009, Ron began working as public works director for the City of Antioch. In 2016, Ron was promoted to assistant city manager and in 2017 he stepped into the position of City Manager.

During his time as City Manager, Ron was a strong leader on a variety of key issues in the city such as homelessness, water rights, and economic development. Ron was particularly passionate about housing issues in the community. He often met with unhoused residents and played a critical role in ensuring that they have access to basic services. He also implemented vital police reforms within the Antioch Police Department. Ron was instrumental in leading the City through some of the greatest structural improvements that Antioch has ever undergone.

In his personal life, Ron enjoys spending time with his wife, Irma, their children, and their three grandchildren.

Ron's work has had a significant impact on the City of Antioch and its residents. Please join me in congratulating Ron on his retirement and honoring Ron for his 36 years of public service.

RECOGNIZING MR. LANCE CLIMER
AS THE WALTON COUNTY, FLORIDA
TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Lance Climer as the Walton County Teacher of the Year. For five years, Mr. Climer has served the Walton County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the teaching profession is one of the most difficult yet rewarding professions in existence. Mr. Climer has performed his teaching duties exceptionally, while also striving to be an active and supportive member of his community.

His support and outreach extend far beyond the walls of his social studies class through his involvement as Men's Golf Coach, Key Club Advisor, School Improvement Team member and Department Chair. As the advisor to a community service club, Mr. Climer has displayed dedication to preparing the whole child for a life of success by showcasing to students that the best aspects in life are often not what you receive, but instead what you can give back. I commend him for his steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most, the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of his admirable contributions, I am truly proud to have Mr. Climer as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Mr. Lance Climer for his accomplishments and his commitment to excellence, professionalism, innovation, and collaboration in the

Walton County School District. I thank him for his service and wish him all the best for continued success.

TRIBUTE TO CHERYL A. HICKMON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated community servant, mentor, and advocate for social justice and economic empowerment. Cheryl A. Hickmon, the 27th National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., transitioned from this life on January 20, 2022. She left a legacy that enriched the lives of women and girls globally and uplifted African American communities particularly.

Cheryl A. Hickmon, was a native of Hartford, Connecticut. She was born on May 11, 1962, to the late Dr. Ned Hickmon and Consuella Anderson Hickmon. She was a graduate of my alma mater, South Carolina State University, where her leadership journey in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. began when she was initiated through the Alpha Xi Chapter in 1982. She became president of the Alpha Xi Chapter (1983 to 1984) and South Atlantic Regional Representative (1984 to 1986). After graduating from South Carolina State, Cheryl Hickmon returned to her hometown, where she joined the Hartford Alumnae Chapter and eventually became Chapter President (2009 to 2013).

She remained actively involved in the Sorority for 39 years and held numerous elected and appointed positions at the national, regional, and local levels; most recently being elected as National President and Chair of the Board of Directors of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Professionally, Cheryl Hickmon was a licensed Clinical Laboratory. Technologist and worked in the Reproductive Medical Laboratory for more than 30 years. She was most recently employed at Montefiore's Institute for Reproductive Medicine and Health in Hartsdale, New York, a division of the Montefiore Medical Center and a teaching hospital of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She supervised the In Vitro Fertilization Laboratories for Andrology and Endocrinology. Cheryl Hickmon was highly skilled and experienced in the specialties of Andrology and Endocrinology. One of her greatest joys was assisting couples with the gift of children.

Cheryl Hickmon served her community in various ways; the NAACP, the National Council of Negro Women, the National Brotherhood of Skiers, and was a member of St. Monica's Episcopal Church. She was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including Outstanding Accomplishments and Achievement Award from South Carolina State, the "100 Most Influential African Americans in the State of Connecticut" by the Connecticut Chapters of the NAACP, and the Citizen of the Year Award from the Tau Iota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

She is survived by her older brothers Ned and David Hickmon, a host of other family and friends, and the entire membership of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Those who had the pleasure of knowing Cheryl Hickmon agree that she embodied integrity, grace, and an unselfish, giving spirit.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of Cheryl A. Hickmon, a woman who led with humility and lived by the motto, "Don't measure life by the number of breaths you take, but by the number of moments that take your breath away."